



# PRESS RELEASE

## NATIONAL AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS SERVICE

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### Spring Wheat Acreage Up and Barley Acreage Down from 2005

Idaho's spring wheat seedings, at 500,000 acres, are up 6 percent from the 470,000 acres planted in 2005. Harvested acreage is set at 480,000 acres, an increase of 30,000 acres from last year. Winter wheat seedings of 750,000 acres decreased 3 percent from the previous year. Harvested acres are expected to total 710,000 acres, down 20,000 acres from 2005. Area planted to durum wheat totaled 15,000 acres, with 15,000 acres also expected to be harvested for grain. Barley acreage planted is estimated at 560,000 acres, 11 percent less than last year's 630,000 acres. This is the least barley planted in Idaho since 1967. Harvested acreage is expected to total 530,000, down from 600,000 acres harvested in 2005. Acres seeded to oats totaled 100,000, up from 90,000 acres last year. Acres harvested for grain are estimated at 20,000, unchanged from last year. The area planted to corn, at 270,000 acres, is up 35,000 acres from last year's record high. Corn to be harvested for grain is forecast at 70,000 acres, up 10,000 acres from 2005. Planted acreage of sugarbeets is estimated at 188,000 acres, up 11 percent from the 169,000 acres planted in 2005. Acres of sugarbeets for harvest are expected to total 187,000, an increase of 20,000 acres from last year. Dry bean planted acreage is up 10 percent to 110,000 acres planted with 108,000 acres expected to be harvested. Estimates for dry bean acreage include garbanzo beans, which are grown primarily in North Idaho. Increases in chickpeas in North Idaho more than offset declines in other classes in Southern Idaho. Idaho farmers and ranchers are expected to harvest 1,500,000 acres of all hay, up 6 percent from last year. Alfalfa hay harvested is at 1,160,000 acres, up 2 percent from last year, and other hay is estimated at 340,000 harvested acres, up 26 percent from 2005.

For the U.S., winter wheat planted area, at 41.4 million acres, is 2 percent above last year but virtually unchanged from the last estimate. Area harvested for grain is estimated at 31.1 million acres, down slightly from the June 1 forecast and down 8 percent from last year. Area planted to other spring wheat is estimated at 14.6 million acres, up 4 percent from 2005. Grain area is expected to total 14.2 million acres, also up 4 percent from last year. Durum planted area for 2006 is estimated at 1.89 million acres, down 32 percent from last year. This is the lowest durum wheat acreage since 1961. Area harvested for grain is expected to total 1.82 million acres, 33 percent below last year's level. Barley growers seeded 3.50 million acres for 2006, down 10 percent from the 3.88 million acres seeded a year ago, and the lowest since barley planted acreage estimates began in 1926. Acres for harvest, at 2.99 million, are down 9 percent from the 2005 level and the lowest since 1885. Oats planted totaled 4.31 million acres, 2 percent more than last year. Growers intend to harvest 1.91 million acres of oats for grain in 2006, up 5 percent from 2005. Corn planted area is estimated at 79.4 million acres, down 3 percent from 2005. Growers expect to harvest 72.1 million acres for grain, down 4 percent from 2005. Area planted to sugarbeets totaled 1.36 million acres, up 5 percent from 2005. Harvested area is forecast at 1.32 million acres, up 6 percent from 2005. Dry bean planted acreage, at 1.56 million acres, is down 6 percent from last year. Acres to be harvested are forecast at 1.47 million, down 7 percent from 2005. Producers expect to harvest 62.7 million acres of all hay in 2006, up 2 percent from 2005. Alfalfa hay harvested acreage is estimated at 22.4 million acres, up fractionally from last year.

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